

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Presented) A system for exchanging a short message service (SMS) message between networks operating in accordance with different standards, comprising:

an intermediary network system connected simultaneously to a first network operating in accordance with a first standard and a second network operating in accordance with a second standard, the intermediary comprising an intermediary gateway providing an SS7 interface on one side thereof and an IP interface on another side thereof, the intermediary gateway being in communication with a home location register (HLR), mobile switching center/visitor location register (MSC/VLR) and short message service center (SMSC) of the second network; the intermediary gateway comprising an intermediary Location Register, an intermediary Transmitting Station, and an intermediary Receiving Station, each of which substantially emulate, respectively, HLR functionality, GSM SMSC functionality and MSC functionality,

wherein the GSM SMSC functionality comprises sending appropriately timed acknowledgement messages to a GSM-compliant network when the SMS message is being exchanged with an ANSI-compliant network.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein an acknowledgement of receipt to the first network is sent only after a response from the second network is received at the intermediary network system.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein an acknowledgement of receipt to the first network is sent only after an acknowledgement of receipt of the SMS message is received from the second network at the intermediary network system.

26. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 23, wherein ~~one of the messages is~~ the intermediary is operable to send a MAP Send Routing Information for MT SMS messages in accordance with GSM standards.

27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 23, further comprising means for performing a GTT look up to determine to which ~~switch~~ mobile switching center the SMS message should be sent.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27, wherein when the SMS message is directed to a mobile station (MS) operating in the second network, the SMS message is routed to the intermediary system.

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the intermediary operates, from the perspective of the first network, as a Mobile Switching Center (MSC), in accordance with the same standards as the standards of the first network.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23, wherein the intermediary operates, from the perspective of the second network, as a Mobile Switching Center (MSC), in accordance with the same standards as the standards of the second network.